

a humanitarian, Warren's tireless and successful efforts to improve his community, especially to improve the lives of the homeless following the Loma Prieta earthquake, will be long remembered.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors an outstanding individual and a stalwart community member, Mr. Warren Widener. In addition to being a beloved husband, brother, father of three, grandfather, and great-grandfather, he was a respected colleague and dear friend. I offer my sincerest condolences to Warren Widener's extended group of loved ones and to all who benefited from his generous spirit over the course of his incredible life. Warren's legacy of compassion and concern for others will continue in the years to come. May his soul rest in peace.

NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 3, 2013

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the upcoming National Day of the Republic of China, which commemorates the October 10, 1911, uprising that led to the establishment of the Republic of China on January 1, 1912.

The Republic of China, also known as Taiwan, is a friend to the United States and also a substantial trading partner. Taiwan is the largest per capita importer of U.S. farm products, and in 2011 the country imported more than \$267 million in goods from my home state of North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, this anniversary presents an opportunity to recognize Taiwan and her people for their commitment to democracy and economic freedom. In that same vein, it is my hope that ongoing trade talks between the U.S. and Taiwan, as part of the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement, will strengthen our friendship and economic partnership.

The close relationship our countries have should continue to grow through increased cultural and economic exchanges and I look forward to the mutual benefits enjoyed through a strengthened diplomatic bond.

HONORING ELAINE POMEROY MCKELLAR

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 3, 2013

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary individual and former member of my staff, Mrs. Elaine Pomeroy McKellar. Elaine recently retired after an exceptional 46 year career dedicated to serving others, with the last 8 years serving on my staff. We join together in praise of her remarkable contributions to the Bay Area and our great nation.

She was born Elaine Pomeroy on August 3, 1944 in Thomasville, Georgia, where parents were stationed during World War II. Following the war, she and her family moved to Valley City, North Dakota where she grew up with her three younger siblings Linda, Earl, and Glenn. She received her Bachelor of Science in Social Work from the University of North Dakota, and obtained her Masters in Social Work (MSW) at the Washington University in St. Louis.

Armed with her MSW, Mrs. McKellar eagerly headed to the San Francisco Bay Area determined to work in the progressive political climate and change-oriented environment. She met her husband, Larry McKellar, while out on the front lines advocating for fair wages and walking a picket line for the United Farm Workers. They have one son, Dominic McKellar, who works with his father in the family-owned courier business.

She started her career off in the 1970s at Catholic Social Services in San Francisco. She primarily worked on foster care services and with youth transitioning out of the foster care system. She later went to the Children's Home Society as the Coordinator of Emergency Foster Care Family and recruitment, a non-profit agency serving children and families through critical child welfare services.

In the late 1980s, Mrs. McKellar's career took her to Bay View Hunters Point Foundation, where she helped to implement elementary school mental health programs with her experience and expertise in social welfare. Following her experience at the Bay View Hunters Point Foundation, Mrs. McKellar

worked at the UCSF Medical Center at Mount Zion, through a Robert Wood Johnson grant, and provided critical mental health services to children victimized by domestic violence.

Then in 2005, Mrs. McKellar came to work in my Oakland District Office. While initially starting as a part-time caseworker, she quickly rose to become the Senior Caseworker managing the casework services. She had spent the last 8 years providing outstanding constituent services to the residents of the 13th Congressional District. Mrs. McKellar's experience as a social worker was an asset to my office, as her institutional knowledge and expertise in social welfare easily allowed her to work closely with federal agencies and handle sensitive situations with the upmost professionalism and ease. She was committed to ensuring that my constituents received timely responses from agencies, frequently going above and beyond what was required of her.

Mrs. McKellar worked closely with veterans and constituents with issues relating to Social Security and Medicare. Her many contributions to the office have not gone unnoticed. For 5 years, she was responsible for organizing An Artistic Discovery, an annual Congressional high school art competition aimed at encouraging students to express themselves through the arts. Mrs. McKellar worked tirelessly to build relationships with high school art teachers and community stakeholders, which helped to successfully grow the event. In 2012 and 2013, Mrs. McKellar worked closely with staff from Congresswoman Jackie Speier's office to host the Veterans' Fix-It Event, an event to address the backlog in veterans' claims and cases with the Oakland VA Regional Office.

Elaine is an exemplary example of a public servant. She demonstrates the highest ethical standards and truly embodies the social work codes of ethics in all aspects of her life.

On behalf of California's 13th Congressional District, Elaine Pomeroy McKellar, I salute you. Your more than 40 years of experience committed to serving others has been unparalleled. We thank you for your service, and best wishes to you and your loved ones in the years to come.